



Foreign Agricultural Service

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Argentina

Oilseeds and Products

Soybean & Sunflower Update - January 2001

Approved by:

David J. Mergen

U.S. Embassy

Prepared by:

David J. Mergen

Report Highlights:

Production for the 2000 soybean crop (harvested in April 2000) is reduced to 20.2 million tons based on Argentine Government estimates, while production for 2001 is expected to increase to 23.8 million tons due to a large increase in planted area.

Sunflower area and production are expected to fall sharply for the 2001 crop due to low prices and flooding in important growing areas.

Includes PSD changes: Yes
Includes Trade Matrix: No
Unscheduled Report
Buenos Aires [AR1], AR

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Soybean Production

Post increases its estimate of soybean production in 2001 (harvested in April 2001) to 23.8 million tons based on higher area. Official Argentine estimates of soybean planted area are 10.1 million hectares, with 85 percent of projected area planted as of December 22. Yield estimates remain unchanged at 2.43 tons per hectare, reflecting generally normal weather conditions for this time of year. Soybean area has increased this year due to higher expected returns and lower input costs relative to corn and sunflower.

Post is reducing the estimate of soybean production for 2000 (harvested in March 2000) to 20.2 million tons, which is the official Argentine Agriculture Secretariat estimate of production.

Soybean Exports and Use

Exports for 2000 (harvested in April 2000) have basically been completed and total 4.1 million tons. Domestic crush consumption for 2000/2001 is reduced 500,000 tons to reflect lower production. The crush estimate of 16.5 million is consistent with current stock levels and the pace of domestic crush so far this year.

Sunflower Production

Depressed prices for sunflower and flooding in key production areas has led to a large reduction in planted area. The Argentine Agricultural Secretariat estimates that planted area will be 2.3 million hectares for the crop currently being planted, with 98 percent already planted as of December 22. Based on the large expected drop in area, Post is revising production estimate down to 4.1 million tons. Production for the 2000 crop (harvested in March 2000) is also being revised slightly downward, based on Agriculture Secretariat estimates.

Sunflower Exports

Sunflower exports for the 2000 crop (harvested in March 2000) have been largely completed and total exports are expected to be around 250,000 tons.

Table 1: Argentina - Oilseed, Soybean

PSD Table						
Country	Argentina					
Commodity	Oilseed, Soybean				(1000 HA)(1000 MT)	
	Revised	1998	Preliminary	1999	Forecast	2000
	Old	New	Old	New	Old	New
Market Year Begin		04/1999		04/2000		04/2001
Area Planted	8200	8392	8390	8736	9000	10100
Area Harvested	8165	8000	8570	8583	9700	9800
Beginning Stocks	570	570	510	510	400	250
Production	20000	20000	20700	20200	23500	23800
MY Imports	500	500	700	700	300	300
MY Imp. from U.S.	0	0	0	0	0	0
MY Imp. from the EC	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL SUPPLY	21070	21070	21910	21410	24200	24350
MY Exports	3200	3200	4100	4100	4800	4800
MY Exp. to the EC	0	0	0	0	0	0
Crush Dom. Consumption	16800	16800	17000	16500	18200	18600
Food Use Dom. Consump.	10	10	10	10	10	0
Feed,Seed,Waste Dm.Cn.	550	550	400	550	590	550
TOTAL Dom. Consumption	17360	17360	17410	17060	18800	19150
Ending Stocks	510	510	400	250	600	400
TOTAL DISTRIBUTION	21070	21070	21910	21410	24200	24350
Calendar Year Imports	0	0	0	0	0	0
Calendar Yr Imp. U.S.	0	0	0	0	0	0
Calendar Year Exports	0	3194	0	4100	0	4800
Calndr Yr Exp. to U.S.	0	0	0	0	0	0

Table 2: Argentina - Oilseed, Sunflower

PSD Table						
Country	Argentina					
Commodity	Oilseed, Sunflowerseed				(1000 HA)(1000 MT)	
	Revised	1998	Preliminary	1999	Forecast	2000
	Old	New	Old	New	Old	New
Market Year Begin		03/1999		03/2000		03/2001
Area Planted	4024	4097	4000	3587	3250	2300
Area Harvested	3909	3909	3480	3477	2400	2200
Beginning Stocks	188	188	193	193	133	133

Production	7100	7000	6100	6000	4400	4100
MY Imports	0	0	0	0	0	0
MY Imp. from U.S.	0	0	0	0	0	0
MY Imp. from the EC	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL SUPPLY	7288	7188	6293	6193	4533	4233
MY Exports	910	860	550	250	350	250
MY Exp. to the EC	0	0	0	0	0	0
Crush Dom. Consumption	6125	6075	5550	5750	4025	3823
Food Use Dom. Consump.	0	0	0	0	0	0
Feed,Seed,Waste Dm.Cn.	60	60	60	60	58	60
TOTAL Dom. Consumption	6185	6135	5610	5810	4083	3883
Ending Stocks	193	193	133	133	100	100
TOTAL DISTRIBUTION	7288	7188	6293	6193	4533	4233
Calendar Year Imports	0	0	0	0	0	0
Calendar Yr Imp. U.S.	0	0	0	0	0	0
Calendar Year Exports	0	454	0	800	0	250
Calndr Yr Exp. to U.S.	0	0	0	0	1.11e+08	0